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**City of Duluth - Communications Office**

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**DATE: 3/8/2017**

**SUBJECT: Mayor Larson to Recognize International Women's Day and Women's History Month with Special Event**

**BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office**

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**Mayor Larson to Recognize International Women's Day/Month with Special Event**

[Duluth, MN] – In honor of International Women's Day, and in celebration of March as Women's History Month, Mayor Emily Larson is partnering with Marcus Theatres, YWCA Girl Power and the Valley Youth Center program to host a special viewing of the movie "Hidden Figures."

The critically acclaimed film is scheduled to leave the theatres tomorrow, but Marcus Theatres has generously offered to bring the movie back for a matinee showing at 1:30pm on Thursday March 16th at the Lakes 10 Cinema, 4351 Stebner Road. Joining Mayor Larson at the theatre will be 40 participants from the YWCA Girl Power program and Valley Youth Center. Duluth-Superior Save The Kids also contributed to this event. Other youth groups are also invited to join in the event.

"Women are change makers, leaders, mothers and mentors. In countless ways we shape our communities, cities, states and world," said Mayor Larson. "Stories of women's struggles and resilience are a critical part of our history, and understanding where we've been is an important part of building the path to where we're going. This movie tells an important story of the accomplishments of African American women who worked at NASA in support of men who worked as astronauts. In countless ways their efforts were intentionally kept in the dark. I think many people can relate to a story of unappreciated efforts and unrealized potential. I'm excited to watch this movie with youth in our community. I believe in them, and I know this community does, too."

Since taking office in January 2016, Mayor Larson has made connecting with youth from across the city a personal priority. "Whether it's visiting afterschool programs, hosting listening sessions in my office or getting out to evening scout troop meetings, youth in our community speak truth, and they understand the need to be bold in order to accomplish things for themselves and our shared future." This year's theme for International Women's Day is #BeBoldforChange.

For those available for a mid-week matinee, this viewing is open to the public, and tickets will be available for \$5. Following the movie there will be a brief discussion about the important opportunity for women in science, technology and math.

Acknowledging this generous donation, Mayor Larson expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Marcus Theatres. "I want to send out a special thanks to Marcus Theatres whose kindness and generosity is allowing us to reach out to young girls in Duluth and shine the light on this story but also to inspire future scientists and engineers within our community."

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